

1997-98 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Joint Committee on
Finance (JC-Fi)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤ **

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ 97hrJC-Fi_Misc_pt167

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **



an economic development district

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
Hubert Smith
VICE CHAIRMAN
Douglas Moquin
SEC'Y.-TREASURER
Michael Elias
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Bruce T. Davis

•ASHLAND COUNTY
Michael Elias
•BAYFIELD COUNTY
Fred Janz
•BURNETT COUNTY
Milton Steltrecht
•DOUGLAS COUNTY
David Dumke
•IRON COUNTY
Louis Leoni

•PRICE COUNTY
Douglas Moquin
•RUSK COUNTY
Thure Osuldsen
•SAWYER COUNTY
Marshall Ruegger
•TAYLOR COUNTY
Herbert Bergmann
•WASHBURN COUNTY
Hubert Smith

•INDIAN TRIBAL UNITS

MEMO

Date: April 17, 1997

To: Brian Burke and Scott Jensen, Co-Chairs Joint Finance Committee

From: Fred Goold, Landscape Architect

Subject: Retaining of the WLIP and WLIB

Hello. My name is Fred Goold and I am the Land Information Program Coordinator for the NWRPC.

Our regional responsibility includes the north western Wisconsin counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Iron, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, Price, Rusk, and Taylor.

Since the inception of the WLIP, I have been involved with our ten-county land information programs, providing such efforts as developing county-wide plans, grant writing, and organizing a regional consortium to help achieve and share information for consistent regional land information programs.

Throughout the efforts of the WLIP and the WLIB, our northwest counties have, with minimal local financial resources, made great strides in the modernization of their county land records.

From our northwest Wisconsin perspective, we feel it is extremely important to retain the WLIP and its administrative body, the WLIB, which has been responsive to land records modernization programs in this ten-county region.

Thank you.

1400 S. River St. • Spooner, WI 54801
715-635-2197 FAX 715-635-7262



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SUPERIOR
Superior, Wisconsin

Office of the Board of Education

April 17, 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Louis Thompson, Superior School Board Member

RE: The state budget bill

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on this network and to consider our concerns as related to the state budget bill.

I am a ten year school board member in the School District of Superior. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of the WASB and represent 40 districts in Region 1 of northern Wisconsin. I am also a member of the Board of Control for CESA #12 in Ashland.

First of all, we appreciate the 2/3 funding source being provided to our schools and the tax relief provided to our property taxpayers. Please continue this commitment to fund education in Wisconsin.

Now for a concern.

Our board of education has been a conservative board through the years and has always provided the best education possible at a very economical cost to our citizens in the Superior area. At the present time, we rank 398th of 427 districts in Wisconsin in per pupil costs. Our costs are near \$6200 per pupil this past year and the state average is just over \$7200 per pupil.

Because of our conservative budget in the School District of Superior, we are locked into a low spending limit now with revenue limits as now operating. We need some kind of relief to enable us to maintain and keep our schools in repair and also to provide technology and the latest in textbooks for our children and youth. We must have some relief on spending restrictions in our schools or we won't have the resources to operate and our children and youth will be the losers. You have provided property tax relief, but you have not provided the money to run the schools.

One final request. Will legislators oppose the proposal to capture school property taxes to fund a new ER-TIF program?

Thank you.

We provide the foundation for a lifetime of learning.



University of Wisconsin
SUPERIOR

UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE
Rothwell Student Center, 1800 Grand Avenue
(715) 394-8432 • FAX (715) 394-8454
Superior, WI 54880-2898

Testimony of

Charles R. Droege

University of Wisconsin-Superior Student Senate Segregated University Fee Allocation
Committee Director

On the 1997-1999 Biennial Budget Proposal

Before the Joint Finance Committee

April 17, 1997

Hello, my name is Chuck Droege and I am the chair of the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee. I represent 2,600 students at UW-Superior and 140,000 students statewide through United Council.

I am here today to talk about faculty compensation and its proposed link to student's tuition. As I am sure you know, in the current budget proposal there is a provision granting authority to the UW System Board of Regents to increase tuition levels to fund faculty pay increases. The students of Wisconsin are opposed to this provision. More and more students are being forced out of school by increasing tuition and this addition would add to that number. By raising tuition to support faculty raises there is not only an immediate increase in tuition but a precedent that anytime UW-System does not want to pay for something it will be pushed to students in the form of higher tuition bills.

Right now I have friends who work up to thirty hours a week to cover their cost of education. Currently, their education suffers due to work, but with higher tuition they most likely wouldn't receive any education at all because they simply couldn't work enough to cover their expenses.

Furthermore, students do not want to see a link between faculty raises and tuition because it divides the faculty and the students. I strongly believe that our faculty is top class and they deserve to be compensated accordingly, but not at the student's expense. If the student's are forced to fight against the faculty and vice versa the learning environment on campus would severely suffer. Cooperation between students and faculty, a strong point on our campus, would cease to exist.

To reiterate, the students of Wisconsin urge you to not link faculty compensation to tuition and to invest in education.

Hello to all of you from everyone in the Town of Round Lake

The Town of Round Lake is in Sawyer County and located East of Hayward. We will celebrate our 84th birthday in July of this year. Jean C. Laier is my name and I'm currently serving as the Chairman of the Town of Round Lake being duly elected to the position at the April election held April 1 of this year. I previously served as town board supervisor for 13 years and chairman since November 1996.

I wish to address "ROAD AIDS". Roads are a big issue for Wisconsin Towns because towns maintain 61,000 (sixty one thousand) miles of the states 110,000 (one hundred ten thousand) mile road system. Many of our town roads are NOT designed or constructed for the increased vehicle tourism and heavy commercial logging and truck traffic. Safe and cost effective rural roads are important for the economic and social well being of our rural areas. Legislatures and town officials should lead the way to make town road financing meet the travelers needs in the 1990's and the 2000's. We must protect our investment in Wisconsin's state/local road system by adequately funding improvements and maintenance activities.

The state's share of local road costs dropped from 25% of expenditures in the early 1990's to about 20% now. In recent years towns saw a slight increase in transportation aids received by them. Per mile payments were: 1994-\$1,275; 1995-\$1350 and 1996,\$1390.00. In 1997 \$1432 and the DOT is now proposing to freeze payment levels at the \$1432 rate for the years 1998 and 1999. This forces towns to either defer maintenance or levy higher property taxes. Towns have always received less per mile road aids than other municipalities. The aids are used to help finance all phases of road maintenance, wages, equipment purchases and repairs, gravel, signs, culverts, asphalt and gravel just to name a few.

No one likes higher taxes but because Wisconsin must finance road maintenance on a pay as you go basis we support increasing state transportation fund revenues, provided that a proportionate share of increased funding be used to meet Town needs. If state revenues are increased we support broadening the state transportation revenues by increases in vehicle registration fees, including heavy vehicles and also establishing registration fees for all trailers. We would also support up to two cents per gallon motor fuel tax increase if proportionate shares of all state funds are returned for local transportation needs.

Local road aids should be increased from the current \$1432/mile to \$1500/mile in 1998 and \$1550/mile in 1999. We also support earmarking the bulk of local funding increases in capital improvements such as the Local Road Improvement Program. This program offers an excellent distribution mechanism.

Thank You for your attention and allowing me to speak on the subject of local road aids and Thank You for traveling North of Highway 29 to hear the Testimony given here today regarding the Governor's proposed budget.

*Mrs. Jean C. Laier
Rt. 9 Box 9181
Hayward, Wis. 54843*

STAFF

PUBLISHING OFFICE

For advertising, circulation, reader service, and reprint information, contact:
P.O. Box 558, Park Ridge, IL 60068
(847) 696-2391, fax (847) 696-3445
e-mail: 73122,3030@compuserve.com

*W.O. Dannhausen,
President & Publisher*

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Submit all manuscripts, news releases, and items for editorial consideration to:
Better Roads,
6301 Gaston Avenue, Suite 541
Dallas, TX 75214 (214) 827-4630

EDITORIAL STAFF

Ruth W. Stidger, B.Sc., M.Sc.,
Associate Publisher and Editor-in-Chief
Carol M. Miller, B.A., *Managing Editor*
Robert Long, B.A., *Associate Editor*
Joel B. Johnson, B.S., *Technical Editor*
Hans Muntz, P.E., *Contributing Editor*
Alfred R. Pagan, P.E., *Contributing Editor*

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Carole Spohr, *Production Manager*
Dorothy Shea, *Reader Service Manager*
Jessica Munao, *Circulation Manager*
Margaret Obrochta, *Circulation Assistant*
Susan Stacy, *Circulation Assistant*
Diane Stefani, *Administrative Assistant*

Linda Hapner, *Computer Consultant*

ADVERTISING SALES

See listings on page 8

Address all mailed advertising material to:
Better Roads
P.O. Box 558
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Address all advertising UPS and
advertising Express Mail to:
Better Roads
6300 No. River Road, Suite 505
Rosemont, IL 60018

Address all editorial material,
including UPS and Express Mail to:
Better Roads Editorial Office
6301 Gaston Avenue, Suite 541
Dallas, TX 75214

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT



Don't settle for less federal money

A press release from the American Road & Transportation Builders Association recently provided details about President Clinton's proposed 1998-2002 transportation budget. While the Clinton administration says federal highway improvement spending will remain relatively steady over that 6-year period, the ARTBA analysis shows it would actually slash \$12.6 billion in real dollars when the proposed outlays are adjusted for inflation. The President's overall budget assumes inflation will grow 2.7% annually for the period.

The Clinton budget as sent to Congress shows cash outlays for federal highway investment declining from \$19.6 billion in FY 1996 to \$19.1 billion in fiscal 2002. The ARTBA analysis shows that just maintaining the current level of investment in real-dollar terms would require an additional \$3.8 billion in FY 2002, or an outlay of \$22.9 billion.

If such a shortfall is passed, it will be up to states and local governments to raise the money to keep the roads operable — or to face the music when irate drivers experience even more vehicle-destroying potholes and other road maintenance problems.

ARTBA's release goes on to say that at the same time the highway investment is being cut in real-dollar terms, income to the federal Highway Trust Fund would be rising. Annual income to the trust fund from federal highway user receipts would grow from \$26 billion in FY 1996 to \$29.1 billion in FY 2002.

The administration's planned impoundment of trust fund revenues to mask the true size of the federal deficit would result in a \$43.4-billion balance in the trust fund at the end of FY 2002, ARTBA found. The balance stood at \$22 billion at the beginning of the current fiscal year.

Can you do anything about this? I hope you'll contact your Representatives and Senators and try to prevent this proposal from becoming law. You can also contact your local newspapers, both dailies and weeklies, that drivers in your area read on a regular basis, and ask for their help in publicizing the problem. A copy of this editorial may help get them started. And, if you, or they, need more information about this situation, please give me a call at 214/827-4630.

*Ruth W. Stidger,
Associate Publisher and Editor-in-Chief*

Hello, my name is Dawn Marie Adams. I am a graduate of the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College or LCO College for short. I graduated with honors in May of 1994. From there, I continued on at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. I graduated with honors from U.W. Eau Claire in May of 1996, earning my Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. I am currently employed full time as the Health Coordinator for six counties of Head Start centers. I also work part time at Flambeau Hospital in Park Falls.

Looking back five years ago to the beginning of my college education, I marvel at how things work out and fall into place. I was reading through a local paper when I came across an ad for a pilot nursing program at LCO Community College and U.W. Eau Claire. As my family and I had just made the decision for me to return to school for nursing, this was especially interesting to me. Well, I went to LCO College and without any hassles or delays, I was

enrolled in the program. The staff was exceedingly helpful and friendly. It seemed as if all of the staff wanted to see me succeed. What a comforting feeling!

After I had started classes in the fall, I found all of the instructors to be talented, caring, and dedicated to helping those students with a real desire to learn.

I had the desire to learn and I had the need to continue working to help support my three daughters as well. I had to miss some class time, but with the help of the instructors, I was able to complete each class in a timely fashion. This was very important to the financial health of my family. The staff at LCO college understood this, thankfully.

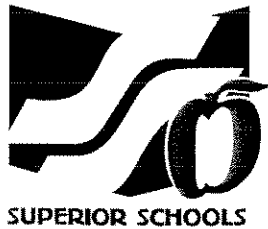
One of the greatest things about this college is the student to staff ratio. Unlike big universities where students sit in a huge lecture hall and listen, the LCO College is just the right size to offer comprehensive teaching and learning

situations. The availability and knowledge of tutors was also a great plus. I still am amazed at the talent of the staff within this quiet little college. What a privilege it was to graduate from there!

In addition, there were numerous extra curricular activities that helped me expand my mind, opportunities, talents, and to give a little breathing space as well.

Another of the benefits of attending the LCO program was the bridging of two cultures. I am a Non-Native American and even though I have lived on the edge of the LCO reservation for 22 years, I basically didn't know anything about my Native American neighbors. While attending LCO College, I learned Native American History, touched on some of the politics, and learned much of today's Native American culture. I would also like to believe that I shared some of my culture as well. As a result, I believe that I'm much more culturally sensitive and am a better Nurse as well.

As you can tell, I truly believe in the quality education offered at the LCO College and the only thing that would make this a better program for Non-Native American students like myself, would be the opportunity to receive financial aid. If I had the opportunity to receive additional financial aid when I attended, I believe this would have greatly eased the financial burden on myself and family. I would ask you all to take in to consideration my words. Thank you for your time and attention.



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SUPERIOR
Superior, Wisconsin

Office of the Board of Education

April 17, 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Louis Thompson, Superior School Board Member

RE: The state budget bill

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on this network and to consider our concerns as related to the state budget bill.

I am a ten year school board member in the School District of Superior. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of the WASB and represent 40 districts in Region 1 of northern Wisconsin. I am also a member of the Board of Control for CESA #12 in Ashland.

First of all, we appreciate the 2/3 funding source being provided to our schools and the tax relief provided to our property taxpayers. Please continue this commitment to fund education in Wisconsin.

Now for a concern.

Our board of education has been a conservative board through the years and has always provided the best education possible at a very economical cost to our citizens in the Superior area. At the present time, we rank 398th of 427 districts in Wisconsin in per pupil costs. Our costs are near \$6200 per pupil this past year and the state average is just over \$7200 per pupil.

Because of our conservative budget in the School District of Superior, we are locked into a low spending limit now with revenue limits as now operating. We need some kind of relief to enable us to maintain and keep our schools in repair and also to provide technology and the latest in textbooks for our children and youth. We must have some relief on spending restrictions in our schools or we won't have the resources to operate and our children and youth will be the losers. You have provided property tax relief, but you have not provided the money to run the schools.

One final request. Will legislators oppose the proposal to capture school property taxes to fund a new ER-TIF program?

Thank you.

We provide the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College

In August of 1982, the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board chartered the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College and provided it with Articles of Incorporation. Governance is provided by an independent Board of Regents.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs conducted on-site evaluations in April of 1983 and notified the college that it had fulfilled all requirements and was approved for funding under P.L. 95-471, the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978. This Act continues to be the prime source of funding for the college.

Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College was granted candidate status for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in February 1987. This six-year accreditation process resulted in full accreditation of all programs in February 1993.

LCOOCC received Land Grant Status approval on October 5, 1994, in legislation passed by the U.S. Congress within the Tribal College Act Endowment Amendment. Menominee and Lac Courte Oreilles College join U.W. Madison as the three land grant colleges in the State of Wisconsin.

Student enrollment set records in the Spring Semester of 1996. The college had 481 students enrolled at the main campus as well as the outreach campuses in Red Cliff, Bad River, and St. Croix. The 481 students took enough courses to equal 418 full-time students. One hundred twenty six (126) non-Indian students were also enrolled. These numbers are the highest the college has ever had in a single semester and are strong indicators for the future success of the college. The ability to maintain and increase the student numbers will ensure the continued life and growth of the college as an established institution of higher education. **See graph #1.**

The Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College has two fully-equipped distance learning studios. Dedication of the LCOOCC Distance Learning Center Studio took place on November 23, 1994. Governor Tommy Thompson, Senator Bob Jauch and University of Wisconsin Chancellor Betty Youngblood from Superior offered congratulations via the new system. In addition to the original room, there is a production studio located in the Academic Technology Center. The distance learning rooms have recently been equipped with an up-link satellite system. With this valuable tool, the college has the capability of sending programming to anywhere in the world.

This capability is in addition to the down-link satellite system which allows the college to receive programming from anywhere in the world. This advanced technology has made

the college a leader in educational resources for students. Both tribal colleges, however, are not included in the state proposed BadgerNet system.

For all of the progress the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College has made over the past years, it has been deeply affected by budgetary constraints. Faculty and administrative salaries are low as compared to their colleagues in the U.W. and Center System.

Base funding is provided to both Menominee Nation College and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College through appropriations by the U.S. Congress administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Each college receives approximately three thousand dollars (3,000) FTE per Native American Student - no dollars are appropriated for non-Indian students. In addition, each college does charge tuition for all students. Both colleges actively seek foundation dollars and financial support from other sources. This however, is not enough to meet the increasing enrollment of non-Indian students. See graph #2.

Both Lac Courte Oreilles Community College and Menominee College initially requested fifty one hundred dollars (5,100) FTE for non-Indian students and we have since revised our request to the State of Wisconsin to provide the minimum dollar amount that we presently receive from the BIA, that is three thousand dollars (3,000) FTE.

See Graph # 3 & 4

Lac Courte Oreilles 1995-96	100 (non-Indian Students) x 3,000 = 300,000
Menominee Nation College 1995-96	88 (non-Indian Students) x 3,000 = 264,000

Total request from the State of Wisconsin is \$564,000 for both Tribal Community Colleges to provide quality education for all students in our college.

Both Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College and Menominee Nation College are members of the American Indian Higher Education consortium (AIHEC) made up of twenty nine (29) tribal colleges throughout the United States.

Similar request to the Michigan, Nebraska, Minnesota and Montana legislatures for state financial support for tribal colleges located in their state is either pending or is passed into law. It is indeed our hope that the State of Wisconsin will provide financial assistance to both tribal colleges in order to provide funding for the non-Indian students that matriculate at both tribal colleges. As can be seen from graphs 3 & 4, the 3,100 FTE that is provided to both colleges to meet the educational needs of Native students, once applied as administrative cost for all students is further reduced to \$2,202 FTE. Compare this to what the State is currently providing to the university and center system.

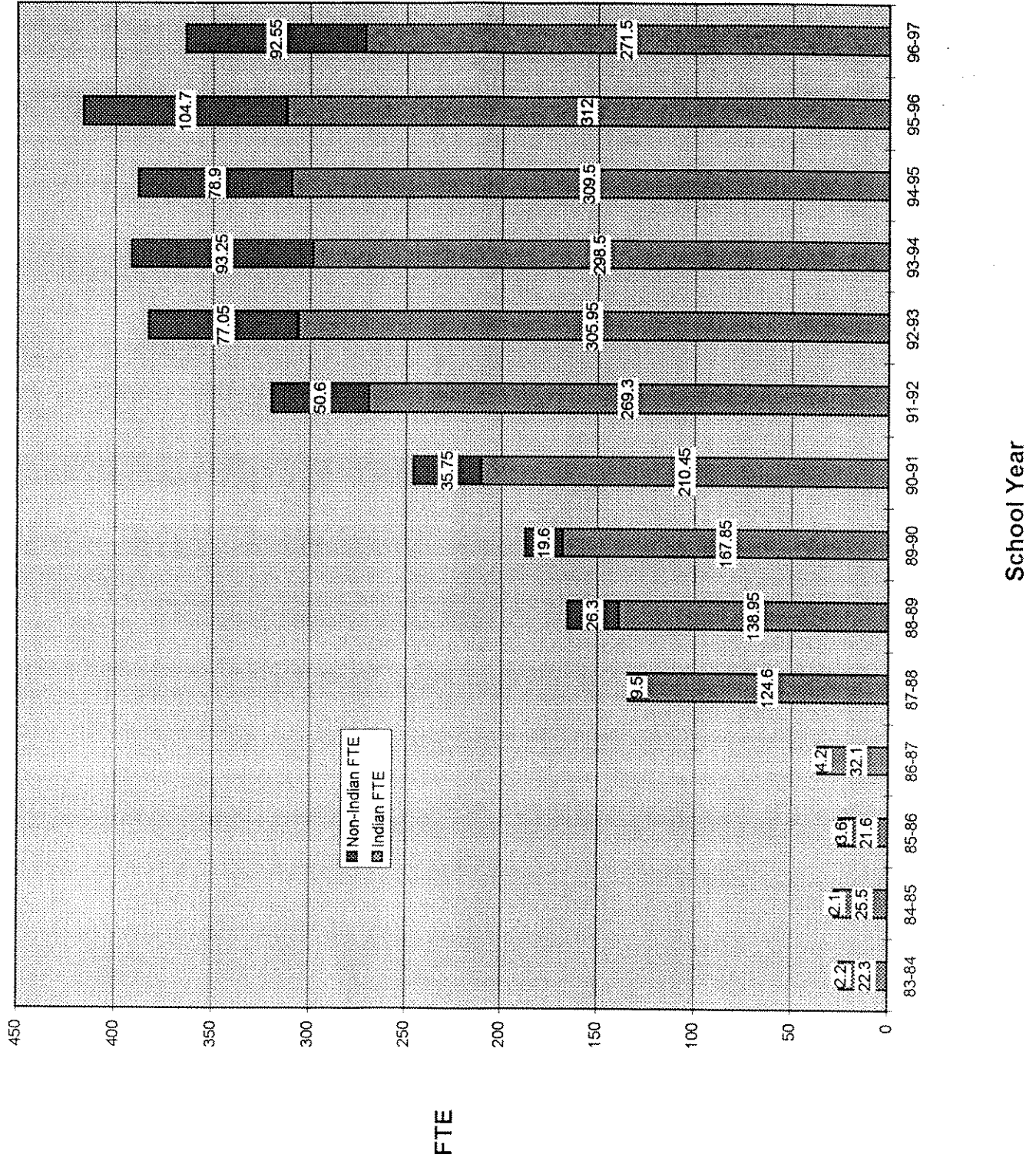
6670 per FTE State
3447 per FTE Federal

These conservative figures are based upon a report: University of Wisconsin Overview, prepared by the Wisconsin Legislature Fiscal Bureau.

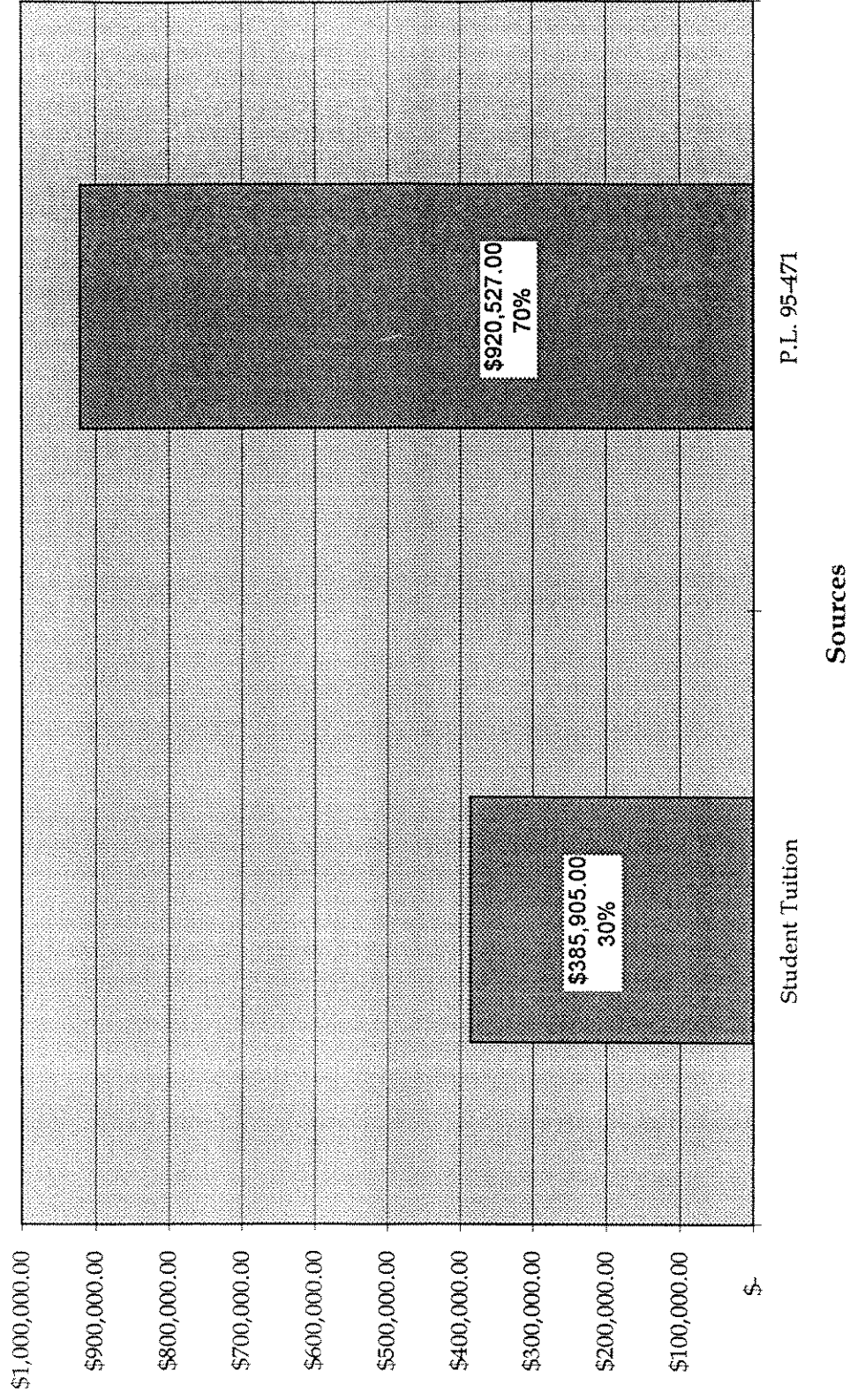
Both tribal colleges are currently filling a void in the remote areas where we are located. For the first time, Indian and non-Indian students have the opportunity to attend a college; to receive the tools to open the doors to the future and to obtain skills to gain meaningful employment. This is especially true in the era of down-sizing and welfare reform. While others speak about diversity, we at both Menominee and Lac Courte Oreilles Community Colleges demonstrate it by the number of students that we graduate.

We respectfully come to the Joint Committee on Finance and request your support to strengthen both tribal colleges so that all of our citizens in our great state are provided the opportunities to receive a quality education.

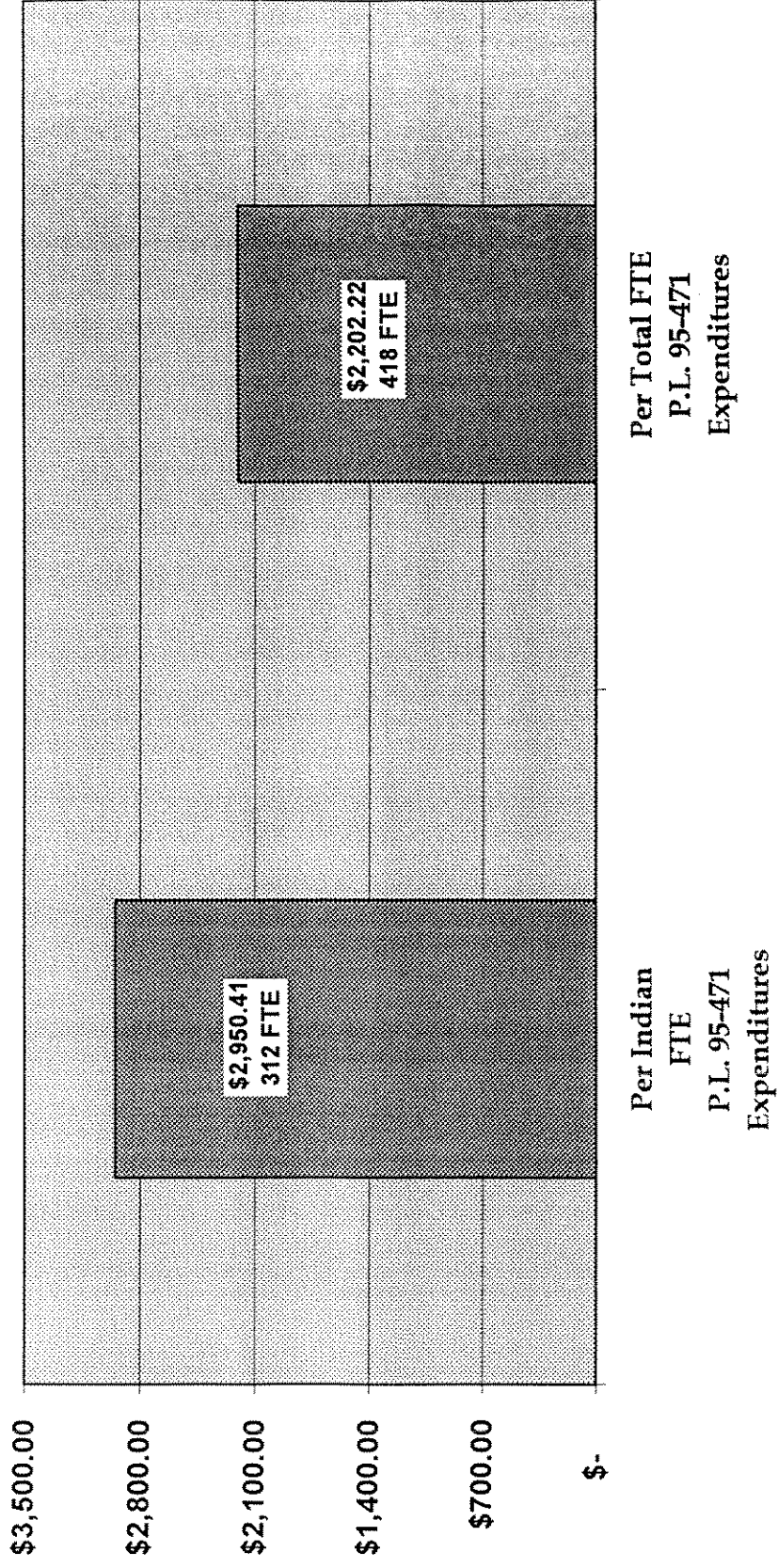
History of FTE at LCOOCC



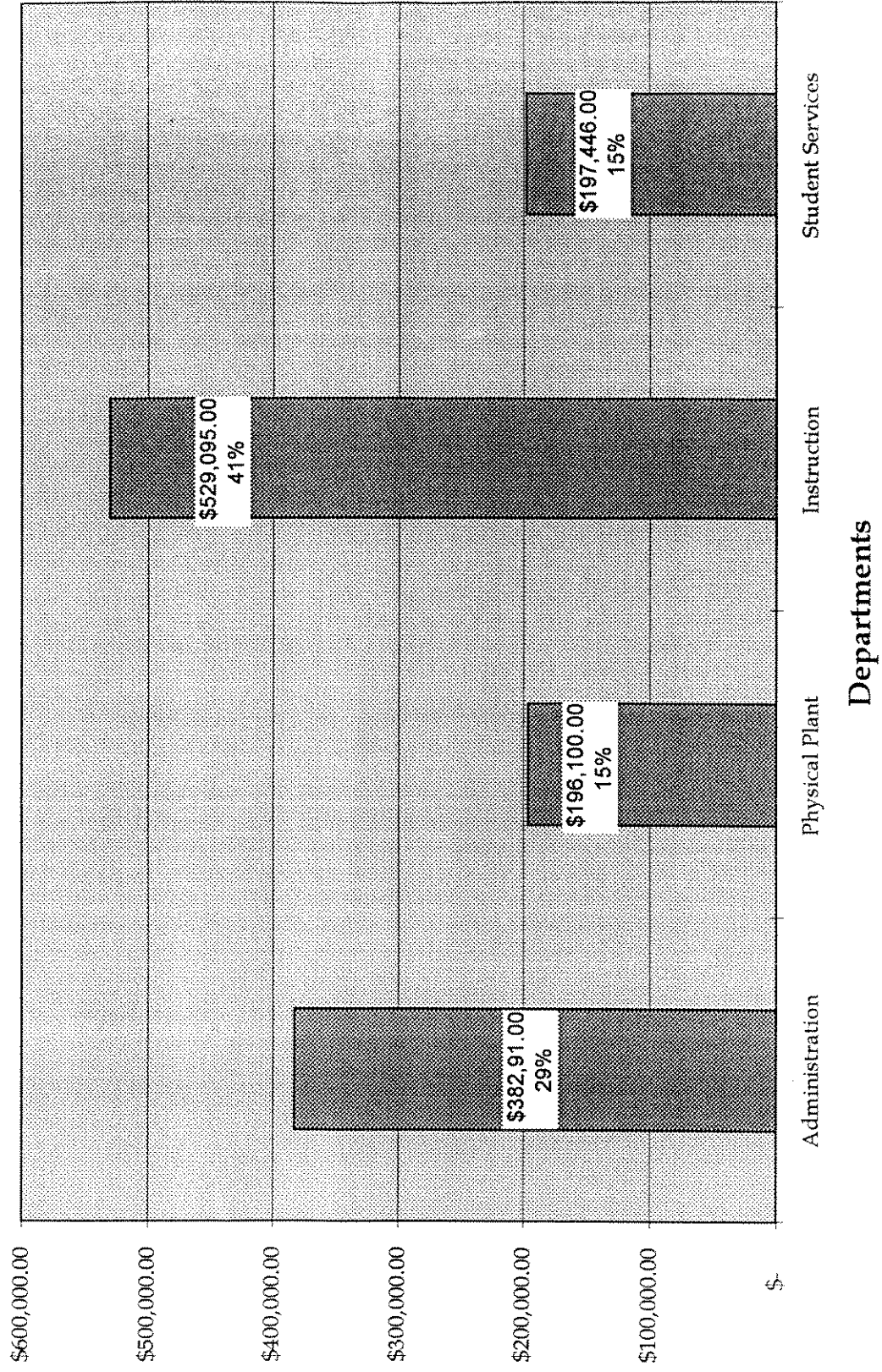
LCOOCC Revenue by Source



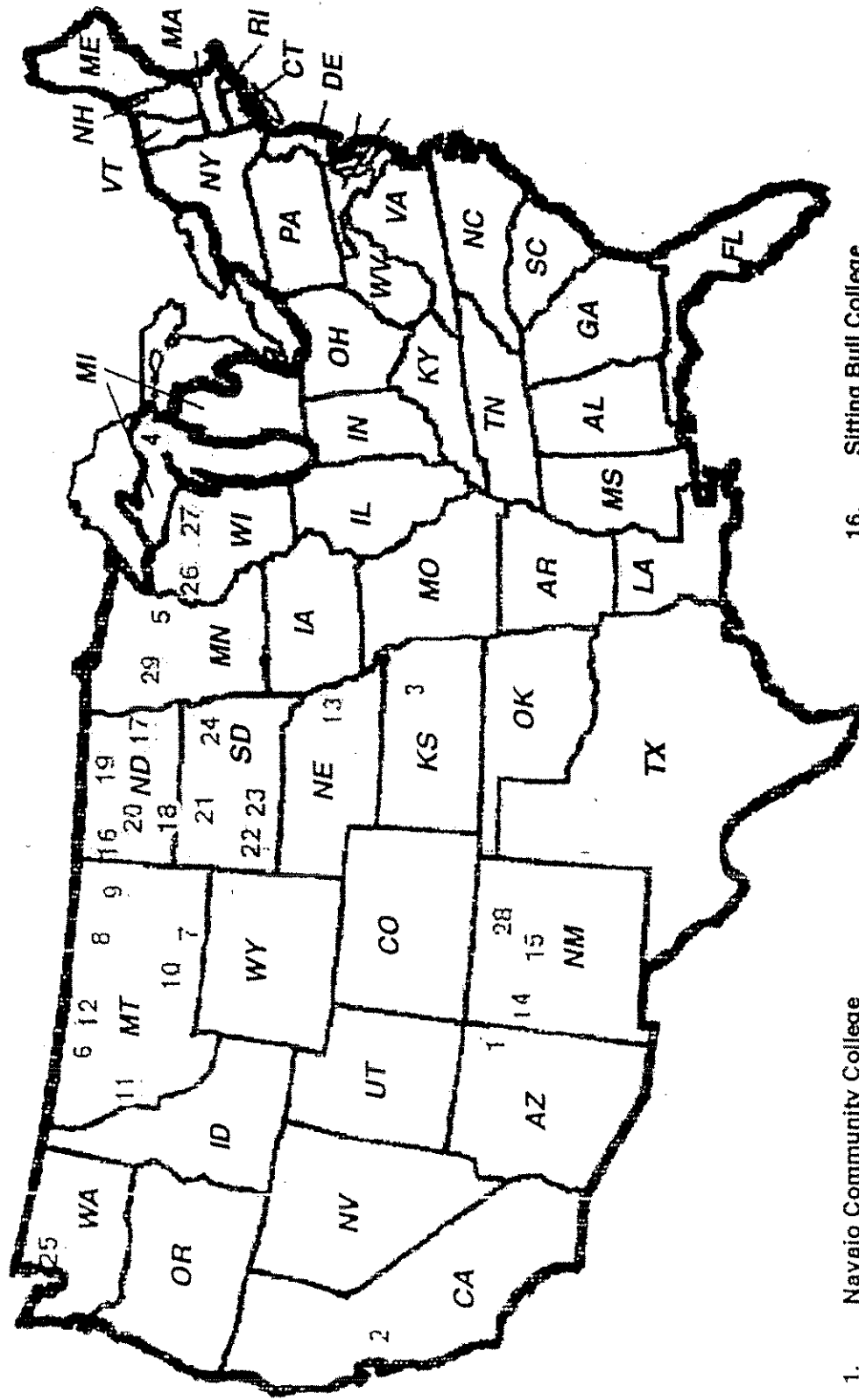
Expenditures per Student at LCOOCC



LCOOCC Expenditures by Department



AIHEC MEMBER COLLEGE LOCATIONS



1. Navajo Community College
2. D-Q University
3. Haskell Indian Nations University
4. Bay Mills Community College
5. Fond du Lac Community College
6. Blackfeet Community College
7. Dull Knife Memorial College
8. Fort Belknap Community College
9. Fort Peck Community College
10. Little Big Horn College
11. Salish Kootenai College
12. Stone Child Community College
13. Nebraska Indian Community College
14. Crownpoint Institute of Technology
15. Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute

16. Sitting Bull College
17. Little Hoop Community College
18. Bismarck
19. Belcourt
20. Fort Berthold Community College
21. Cheyenne River Community College
22. Oglala Community College
23. Sinte Gleska University
24. Sisseton Wahpeton Community College
25. Northwest Indian College
26. Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
27. College of the Menominee Nation
28. Institute of American Indian Arts
29. Leech Lake Tribal College

Presentation of School to Work Plan

1. Introduction:

- a. Hello my name is Keith Hultman and I am the Wisconsin Region 1 Vice President. ^{FBLA} I am also a student enrolled in the School to Work Program at SSHS.
- b. I am here today to discuss the concerns I have regarding the issues of School-to-Work.
 - i. The first issue I have is regarding the **proposed definition** of School-to-Work
 - ii. The second is regarding the **transferring of School-to-Work** from the Department of Public Instruction to the Department of Workforce Development.

2. Proposed definition of School to work is too narrow.

- a. The old definition includes students of all ages
- b. **The new definition only states High School students**
- c. Career education is vital in the early stages of school. Today the school to work program works with students in all grades. Students in the Middle school level can participate in job shadow or mentorship opportunities. If the new definition only includes High School Students these helpful programs could be cut.

3. The transferring of School to work from the Dep of Public Instr. To the Dept of Workforce development could be detrimental to the program.

- a. A vital part of School to Work is the **School Based Learning**.

I am involved in a School to Work Program at the High School. During the day I am enrolled in a class called Business Occupations on the Job. It is a three hour class that prepares me for the business world by going in depth with the skills needed to succeed. I have learned how to prepare letters, reports, and other business documents with the use of various business machines. In the afternoon I work for the Superior Police Dept. The On-The-Job Learning experience gives me an opportunity to expand on the knowledge that I have attained at school. **Both the Classroom and the On-Job learning experience give me an advantage to obtaining a job in the real world.** FBLA provides programs to make use of both experiences. If School to Work is moved to the Dept of Workforce Development I fear that the vital Classroom activities and relating programs could be cut short.

Through FBLA I have gained more confidence in myself and have acquired many important skills. FBLA has given me an opportunity to improve my chance of success. I can only hope that other students in the future will be given this opportunity.

For the continuation of the School to Work Program and the opportunity for future students, do not transfer the School to Work program to the Department of Workforce Development.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.